



Release Highlights: March 20, 2008

MONTANA

2007 County Population Estimates

<http://ceic.mt.gov/EstimatesCntyPop.asp>

The recent U.S. Census Bureau release of the 2007 County Population Estimates show the trend of population concentration is continuing in Montana. While the state population grew at a rate of 6.2% from Census 2000 to the July 1, 2007 population estimate, 34 counties experienced declining populations over the same period. Concentration occurred as 22 counties increased in population and only 11 counties grew faster than the state rate of 6.2%.

Gallatin County is the state growth leader, with population increasing 28.8% since Census 2000. Gallatin appears in The Bureau's 2007 "100 Fastest Growing Counties" list – at #92, and has finally overtaken Flathead County as the third largest county in the state. Other top growth areas for Montana include Flathead, Ravalli, Jefferson, and Missoula Counties.

Even with rapid growth and population concentration, population densities remain relatively low. Yellowstone County, Montana's most dense county, increased slightly this year to 53.1 persons per square mile. While this figure is much higher than the state average of 6.6, it is still far less than the national average of 85.3 persons per square mile.

To view the 2007 County Estimates for all counties, visit CEIC's County Estimates web page at: <http://ceic.mt.gov/EstimatesCntyPop.asp>

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WHAT'S NEW

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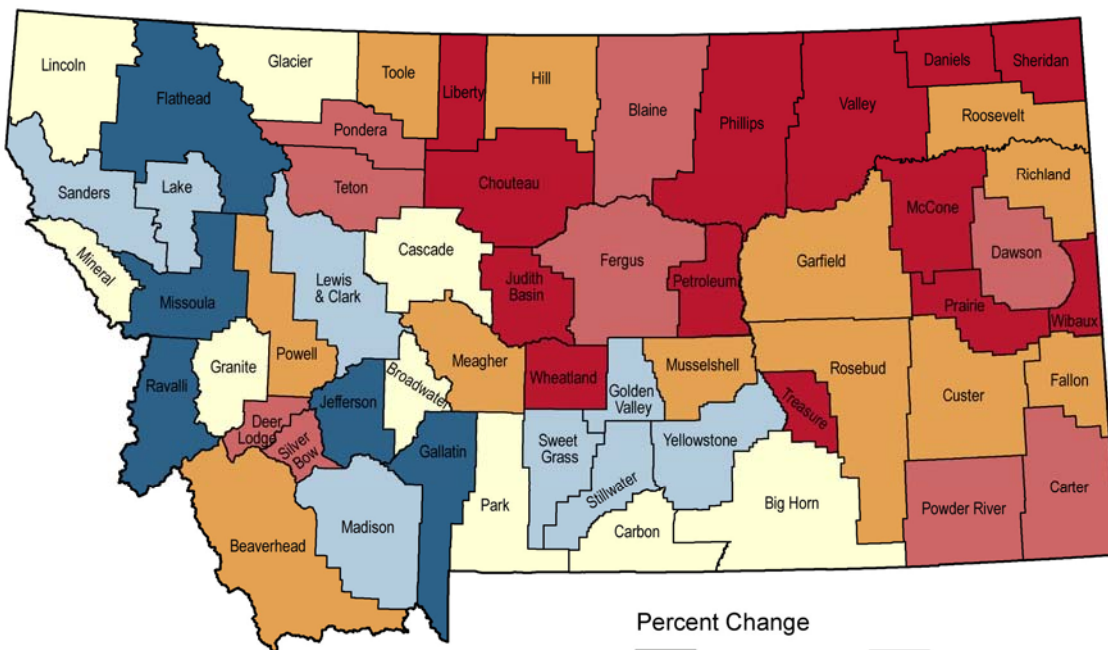
January 31, 2008

[Demographic Analysis:
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December 20, 2007

Steve H. Murdock confirmed as
new Director of the Census
Bureau

Montana County Population Change
Percent Change Between Census 2000 and 2007 Estimates



Montana Percent Change: 6.2

U.S. Percent Change: 6.9

Map by CEIC - March 2008